



H.J.Res. 15 - Recognizing the contributions of the Christmas tree industry to the United States economy

FLOOR SITUATION

H.J.Res. 15 is being considered on the floor by suspending the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Virginia Foxx (R-VA) on January 16, 2007. The bill was referred to the Committee on Agriculture and was ordered to be reported by voice vote.

H.J.Res. 15 is expected to be considered on the floor on December 17, 2007.

SUMMARY

H.J.Res. 15 resolves that Congress recognizes the important contributions of the live-cut Christmas tree industry, the Christmas tree growers, and the persons who are employed in the live-cut Christmas tree industry to the United States economy.

BACKGROUND

Christmas trees have been sold commercially in the United States since the 1850s. By 1900, one in five American families decorated a tree during the Christmas season and by 1930, Christmas tree had become a nearly universal part of the American Christmas celebration.

In 2005, 32.8 million households in the United States purchased a live-cut Christmas tree. 36 million live-cut Christmas trees are produced each year, and 98 percent of these trees are shipped or sold directly from Christmas tree farms. The biggest producers of live cut trees are Oregon, North Carolina, Michigan, Washington, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York, Minnesota, Virginia, California, and Ohio.

More than 21,000 growers of Christmas trees in the United States, and approximately 100,000 people are employed in the live-cut Christmas tree industry.

STAFF CONTACT

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